

married Julia Elliot, the love of his life. They worked 6 days a week. He was maitre d' at Elliot's Pine Log Restaurant in Skokie, IL. He watched his son and daughter grow up and enjoyed the arrival of five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. What a life.

Last month Tony Gargano came to Washington with the Honor Flight. He visited the White House and the World War II Memorial. He shared his story with the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress. They asked him: "What do you think of when you look back on your life?"

Here is what Tony said:

Everything turned out pretty good. I met a nice, young lady. We got married, and spent 60 beautiful years together. I have no complaints.

Isn't that an amazing statement for a man who served 3 years as a prisoner of war and was nearly killed in the effort. The joys of Tony's life have outshined the horrors of that war. If you ask Tony if he is a hero, he says:

There were others who had it much worse. The people we should honor are the ones where the white crosses are. Those are your heroes.

Tony is right, but Tony is a hero too. Tony Gargano faced an unspeakable evil with grace, courage, and determination. He lived his life with love in his heart, and that makes him, even to this day, a true American hero.

It is the service and sacrifice of people like Tony we will continue to honor not just on Veterans Day this Wednesday, but we should honor them every day. Too often servicemembers return home only to find themselves facing a myriad of challenges, from the physical and mental wounds of war to struggling to find work, an education or a home. We can't simply commemorate their service by waving our flags, marching in their parade, and then forgetting them. We have to ensure that veterans and their families have access to the best health care, education, jobs, and housing.

I have been committed to this effort, and I have one program I am particularly proud to have been a part of. It is called the VA Caregivers Program. It provides the families of severely disabled Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans the support they need to keep the veterans home with their families. Thousands of veterans and their caregivers in Illinois and nationwide participate. It is a big, successful program. I recently introduced legislation to expand it so it covers all veterans.

We know veterans face unnecessary delays and claims, processing and reimbursement, and I have worked hard to cut down on that backlog. I have also tried to make our VA hospitals and medical centers in Illinois and across the country the best. It is the new method of medical service being provided to our veterans, and it has to be the best.

I have been proud to sponsor bills to strengthen post-traumatic stress disorder for veterans and their families as

well as improve orthotics and prosthetics research and education. I have been proud to help veterans get homes and jobs. For example, just this year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs awarded more than \$674,000 in grants to assist homeless veterans in my State through a tenant-based voucher program.

Let me say a word about a program I visited just this last week in Chicago, which is an extraordinary program. The program is called Rags of Honor. It was created by my friend Mark Doyle. He wanted to do something to create good-paying jobs for homeless veterans, and so he decided to print T-shirts and hired homeless veterans to do it. It is on its third year now, and my friend has basically underwritten it, but the fact is, it is a success.

These men and women who were living in their cars or living on the streets now have good-paying jobs making T-shirts. These T-shirts are all made by veterans, some of whom were homeless. These are all American products, all American made, and they are selling them and people are buying them. Northwestern University decided they would turn to them and have them print T-shirts for some of their needs at the university. I have used Rags of Honor T-shirts in my campaign. It is an example of what can be done to help our veterans—just by one man who was willing to dedicate a big part of his life to do it, and there are so many more like him.

I wish to thank all of those who have risked and given of themselves—even the families of those who have given their lives for this Nation—and for the wounds they suffered, the sacrifices they made, and the freedoms we enjoy which they secured. We remember and honor the service of every American veteran, not only at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month but every day of the year, because even though servicemembers and veterans like Tony Gargano may shy away from being labeled as heroes, they are truly of the most deserving of that honor.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN LUCILE McDONALD SHIPP

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to honor a native Utahn and dear friend on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Carolyn Lucile McDonald Shipp was born on December 5, 1935, in the L.D.S. hospital in Salt Lake City, UT. She is the first living child born to Andrew

Melvin and Lucile McDonald. She is the sister to three brothers, two deceased, and two sisters, one deceased. She was born in the midst of the Great Depression and lived through the rationing in World War II. The Utah she grew up in was very rural. The only thing between the house she was raised in and the mountains was a great gully.

Carolyn's family home had no TV until she was a teenager, but she loved listening to the radio on Sunday afternoons. Raised with a strong work ethic, daily and weekly chores were a must do before any recreation. Her home had only one bathroom for a family of seven and shared a party line telephone with four neighbors.

Carolyn was an accomplished pianist and in the a capella choir, but it was dancing that gave her the greatest joy growing up. She took ballet and excelled at tap dancing. Carolyn was popular in high school and recalls those carefree times very fondly.

A classic beauty—many have compared to the movie star Kim Novak—Carolyn was a natural at modeling and was asked to represent East High in a number of fashion shows during her senior year in high school.

Carolyn treasured her time at East High in Salt Lake City and maintains strong friendships to this very day with many of her friends from that time. Her grandchildren are very impressed that their grandmother went to the now famous East High School of the High School Musical movie fame.

From high school, Carolyn went to the University of Utah, where she pledged the Alpha Chi Omega sorority, where she was the exchange chairman responsible for planning parties. She dated athletes and majored in elementary education. She recalls that, as soon as she began taking classes in elementary education, she knew she was born to teach children.

After college, Carolyn spent a summer working and playing in Hawaii and then settled in as a young teacher back in Utah. During her second year of teaching, she was introduced to Royal Shipp, who became her husband and the great love of her life. They were married in the Salt Lake City Temple.

Carolyn has loved being married and has described it as "having a slumber party every night with your best friend." During their early married life, Carolyn continued teaching while Royal continued his education.

A few years after their marriage, Carolyn and Royal, along with their two small daughters, Becky and Kristy, moved to Virginia, so Royal could work in Washington, DC.

The family stayed in the DC Metro area and added another girl, Julie, and finally a boy, Philip, to the family. The family grew up during a turbulent time in our country: the Vietnam war, Watergate, and the integration of the public schools all contributed to an uneasy climate. But no matter what was going on outside the home, Carolyn and

Royal made sure their home was a safe and loving place.

Carolyn was a stay-at-home mother until her youngest started first grade. At that time, she began to prepare for her second career, a tutor for children with learning disabilities. Carolyn worked for many years at the Potomac School in McLean, VA.

As she raised her family, Carolyn held a number of stake and ward leadership positions in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including Relief Society president and Young Women's president. Her faith has always been an integral part of Carolyn's life. For many years, Carolyn and Royal have served in the Bella Vista Spanish Ward, where they are dearly loved. Carolyn also served with Royal as area humanitarian missionaries in Colombia and Venezuela. Carolyn continues her service as a worker in the Washington, DC, temple.

As a mother and a grandmother, Carolyn has worked to create family memories and traditions. She decorates her home for all the holidays and takes great pride in having fresh flowers, candles, lovely dishes, and table arrangements. Every Christmas, her grandchildren put on a Christmas program. Every Easter features an egg hunt at her home. Birthdays and other milestones are always celebrated with a special family dinner.

Most years, Carolyn and Royal host the entire family for a weekly trip to the Outer Banks, NC. The family cherishes this time as it has contributed to lasting memories and close ties between siblings and cousins alike.

People are the treasures of Carolyn's life. She relishes the company of her friends in her book club and her social group, "The Times Club." She travels to Utah regularly to reconnect with her high school and college friends.

Her 12 grandchildren are the lights of her life. She regularly attends school and church function featuring her grandchildren. She never misses a single one of her grandchildren's plays or concerts, and she travels regularly to Kansas to see her grandchildren participate in student government activities, cheerleading, and playing sports. Carolyn helps her grandchildren as they make the transition into adulthood by supporting them on their LDS missions, foreign travel, career development, and assisting with wedding preparations.

Carolyn Lucile McDonald Shipp is the embodiment of service, love, and compassion. It is a privilege to help her celebrate her 80th birthday.

#### WORLD WAR II HEROES AND HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on Tuesday, November 11, Americans across the country will gather to honor those who have fought for our freedom and thank them for a debt we can never fully repay.

This year marks the 97th anniversary of the end of World War I. Our victory

in that "war to end all wars" showed us that we could not ignore the rest of the world. And as President Clinton said, "while that war proved our strength, it did not prove our wisdom. . . . We turned our backs on the rest of the world. We ignored the signs of danger. Soon we had a Great Depression, and soon that depression led to aggression and then to another world war—one that would claim a half million American lives."

Whenever freedom is threatened, our brave men and women have answered the call to serve. Today, I would like to highlight our debt to the heroes and survivors of World War II. Earlier this year, we commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day and paid tribute to the nearly 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazi regime. This year marks the 70th anniversary that Allied Forces entered concentration camps—like Auschwitz-Birkenau—and liberated thousands of prisoners.

On the eve of this Veterans Day, nine American heroes and Holocaust survivors are being honored in my home State of Illinois. Today, I want to share their remarkable stories. As the memory of the Holocaust passes from those who were there to the generations that weren't we can't forget the importance of remembrance.

GEN DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, the supreme commander of Allied Forces in Europe, understood this and documented what he saw. After visiting a liberated Nazi camp, he urged Washington to send congressional delegations to witness Nazi crimes firsthand so that in the future there could be no attempt to dismiss these allegations as "propaganda."

With the remaining eyewitnesses in their twilight years, the responsibility to ensure that future generations never forget these atrocities falls to us. I want to commend these men and women for their brave actions and quiet courage. Today, we honor their sacrifice by remembering the horrors they witnessed and proclaiming in one unified voice: "Never again." I am privileged to honor them and remember their stories. They are true heroes.

I would like to acknowledge Dr. George Brent, Edith Stern, Margie Oppenheimer, Hannah Messinger, Walter Reed, Joseph Dobryman, Lewis Pazoless, Harry Nichols, and Anthony Gargano. But behind every name is a story. I ask unanimous consent to have their stories printed in the RECORD.

Our hearts break for these men and women who mourn their families. But while their stories agonize, they also inspire. Their lives are not just stories of survival; they are stories of triumph and grace in the face of unspeakable evil. I want to thank each of them for the courage to share their stories.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DR. GEORGE BRENT

When George was 14 years old, he and his entire family were transported by cattle car

to Auschwitz-Birkenau with thousands of other Hungarian Jews. When they arrived at the camp, those who were still alive were dragged off the cars and forced into one of two lines. An SS soldier decided whether they would go left or right. George and his father were sent one direction—to live; his mother and ten year-old brother were sent the other direction—to die.

As the Allied Forces advanced, George was sent on a death march from Auschwitz and then on a coal train to Mauthausen-Ebensee Concentration Camp in Austria. On May 6, 1945, General Patton's 3rd Army Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron liberated the camp. Here's how one of General Patton's tank commanders described what he saw: "thousands of skeleton-like figures who were skin and bones. The living laying side by side, often times indistinguishable, from the dead." George was one of the prisoners that survived. He was moved to a displaced persons camp and learned how to be a dental technician. In 1949, George came to America. He learned a new language and started a new life.

In 1950, he joined the United States Air Force and served as a dental assistant during the Korean War. Following his service, he attended dental school at the University of Illinois—and has practiced dentistry until 2011—when he retired at the age of 81. Dr. Brent not only survived these horrors, he thrived. George Brent may not have been born in America, but he is an American hero.

EDITH STERN

In February 1942, when Edith, 21 years old, and her parents were deported to the Theresienstadt Ghetto. She met and married her husband, Otto Rebenwurz, at Theresienstadt. In 1944, not long after the wedding, Edith and her mother were sent to Auschwitz where a sign mockingly read, "Work makes you free." At Auschwitz, Josef Mengele stood before them to decide their fate. Left meant survival, for a few weeks at least. Right meant death in the gas chamber. Edith's mother was sent to her right. She was 55 years old when she died. Edith was sent to a forced labor camp.

In 1944, while Edith was in the Theresienstadt Ghetto with her husband, she became pregnant. By early 1945, her pregnancy began to show and she was transferred to the Grossschœnau labor camp. Edith was liberated from Grossschœnau when she was nine months pregnant. Still dressed in her striped blue prison uniform, she immediately went into labor. Three days after giving birth, the baby she named Peter, died.

Edith moved to the United States in 1964 and became an administrator at the Self Help Home on the South Side of Chicago. After living through the horrors of war, Edith's belief in the goodness of mankind was unshakable. She devoted her life to helping others rebuild their lives. What an inspiration.

MARGIE OPPENHEIMER

Seventy-seven years ago, Margie awoke to a Nazi soldier pointing a rifle at her face—she was 14 years old. It was November 9, 1938, Kristallnacht—the night of broken glass—when Nazi soldiers coordinated attacks all over Jewish communities in Germany and Austria. Windows were smashed. Synagogues burned. Homes and Jewish-owned stores ransacked and looted. Margie's family apartment and small department store were destroyed. This night began seven years of terror for Margie and her family. She was sent to five concentration camps: Sloka, Riga-Kaiserwald, Brüss-Sophienwalde, Stutthof and Goddantow. As a prisoner of these camps, she hauled backbreaking cement bags, was beaten with clubs, broke concrete, laid bricks, fought hunger . . . fear . . . and